

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-14 and 16-38 are all the claims pending in the application.

I. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

A. Claims 1, 3-5, 7-11, 22-25, 29-31, 33, 35 and 37 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Parry (US 2003/0095284) in view of newly cited Davis et al. (US 6,594,677).

Claim 1, as amended, recites that the archiving unit archives the plurality of the print data files into the archived file after changing a name of one print data file of the plurality of the print data files to a specified name, the one print data file being a Top Page print data file, wherein the Top Page print data file is a predetermined print data file in the print document which is firstly required by a printing apparatus in order to print the print document. Applicants respectfully submit that Parry and Davis do not teach or suggest the above-noted combination of features.

Regarding Parry, Applicants note that this reference discloses a printing device that is able to receive archived files from a source, and then decompress each of the received archived files into separate print jobs (see paragraphs [0016] and [0017]). As recognized by the Examiner in the Office Action, however, Parry does not disclose the use of an archive unit which archives a plurality of print data files into an archived file after changing a name of one print data file to a specified name (see Office Action at page 3).

Regarding Davis, Applicants note that this reference discloses a method for archiving files in which a user located at a local terminal can select files which are to be archived at a remote location (see col. 1, lines 6-11). As explained in Davis, the user can designate a specific

time when files are to be archived, or alternatively, can designate an event which triggers the archiving of a file, such as a file being modified (see col. 2, lines 44-47).

Based on the foregoing description, Applicants note that while Davis discloses an archiving method in which a file can be automatically archived in response to the file being modified in some manner, that Davis does not disclose or in any way suggest that one file of the plurality of files has its name changed prior to archiving taking place, the one file being a Top Page print data file, wherein the Top Page print data file is a predetermined print data file in the print document which is firstly required by a printing apparatus in order to print the print document.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that Parry and Davis do not teach, suggest or otherwise render obvious the above-noted combination of features of an archiving unit which archives the plurality of the print data files into the archived file after changing a name of one print data file of the plurality of the print data files to a specified name, the one print data file being a Top Page print data file, wherein the Top Page print data file is a predetermined print data file in the print document which is firstly required by a printing apparatus in order to print the print document, as recited in amended claim 1.

Moreover, Applicants note that claim 1 has also been amended herein to recite that the printing apparatus interprets the Top Page print data file and places bit map data obtained by rasterization based on data of each of the print data files that the Top Page print data file references. In view of the above-noted descriptions of Parry and Davis, Applicants respectfully submit that such references, either alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest such a feature.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 is patentable over the cited prior art, an indication of which is kindly requested. Claims 4, 5 and 7-11 depend from claim 1 and are therefore considered patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

Regarding claim 3, Applicants note that this claim has been amended in a similar manner as claim 1 so as to recite that the archiving unit archives one print data file of the plurality of the print data files in a specified position in the archived file, the one print data file being a Top Page print data file, wherein the Top Page print data file is a predetermined print data file in the print document which is firstly required by a printing apparatus in order to print the print document, and wherein the printing apparatus interprets the Top Page print data file and places bit map data obtained by rasterization based on data of each of the print data files that the Top Page print data file references.

For at least similar reasons as discussed above with respect to claim 1, Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of Parry and Davis does not teach, suggest or otherwise render obvious such features. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claim 3 is patentable over the cited prior art, an indication of which is kindly requested.

Regarding claim 22, Applicants note that this claim has been amended in a similar manner as claim 1 so as to recite that the plurality of the print data files are archived into the archived file after a name of one print data file of the plurality of the print data files is changed to a specified name, the one print data file being a Top Page print data file, wherein the Top Page print data file is a predetermined print data file in the print document which is firstly required by said printing apparatus in order to print the print document, and wherein the printing apparatus interprets the Top Page print data file and places bit map data obtained by rasterization based on

data of each of the print data files that the Top Page print data file references.

For at least similar reasons as discussed above with respect to claim 1, Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of Parry and Davis does not teach, suggest or otherwise render obvious such features. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claim 22 is patentable over the cited prior art, an indication of which is kindly requested. Claims 23-25 depend from claim 22 and are therefore considered patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

Regarding claim 29, Applicants note that this claim has been amended in a similar manner as claim 1 so as to recite the features of an archiving unit operable to archive the plurality of the print data files into a file after the printing apparatus changes a name of one print data file of the plurality of the print data files to a specified name, the one print data file being a Top Page print data file, wherein the Top Page print data file is a predetermined print data file in the print document which is firstly required by the printing apparatus in order to print the print document, and wherein the printing apparatus interprets the Top Page print data file and places bit map data obtained by rasterization based on data of each of the print data files that the Top Page print data file references.

For at least similar reasons as discussed above with respect to claim 1, Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of Parry and Davis does not teach, suggest or otherwise render obvious such features. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claim 29 is patentable over the cited prior art, an indication of which is kindly requested.

Regarding claim 30, Applicants note that this claim has been amended in a similar manner as claim 1 so as to recite the features of an archiving unit operable to archive one print data file of the plurality of the print data files in a specified position in an archived file, the one

print data file being a Top Page print data file, wherein the Top Page print data file is a predetermined print data file in the print document which is firstly required by the printing apparatus in order to print the print document, and wherein the printing apparatus interprets the Top Page print data file and places bit map data obtained by rasterization based on data of each of the print data files that the Top Page print data file references.

For at least similar reasons as discussed above with respect to claim 1, Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of Parry and Davis does not teach, suggest or otherwise render obvious such features. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claim 30 is patentable over the cited prior art, an indication of which is kindly requested.

Regarding claim 31, Applicants note that this claim has been amended in a similar manner as claim 1 so as to recite that the archiving unit archives the plurality of the print data files into the archived file after changing a name of one print data file of the plurality of the print data files to a specified name, the one print data file being a Top Page print data file, wherein the Top Page print data file is a predetermined print data file in the print document which is firstly required by the printing apparatus in order to print the print document, and wherein the printing apparatus interprets the Top Page print data file and places bit map data obtained by rasterization based on data of each of the print data files that the Top Page print data file references.

For at least similar reasons as discussed above with respect to claim 1, Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of Parry and Davis does not teach, suggest or otherwise render obvious such features. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claim 31 is patentable over the cited prior art, an indication of which is kindly requested.

Regarding claim 33, Applicants note that this claim has been amended in a similar

manner as claim 1 so as to recite that the archiving step comprises archiving the plurality of the print data files into the archived file after changing a name of one print data file of the plurality of the print data files to a specified name, the one print data file being a Top Page print data file, wherein the Top Page print data file is a predetermined print data file in the print document which is firstly required by the printing apparatus in order to print the print document, and wherein the printing apparatus interprets the Top Page print data file and places bit map data obtained by rasterization based on data of each of the print data files that the Top Page print data file references.

For at least similar reasons as discussed above with respect to claim 1, Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of Parry and Davis does not teach, suggest or otherwise render obvious such features. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claim 33 is patentable over the cited prior art, an indication of which is kindly requested.

Regarding claim 35, Applicants note this claim has been amended in a similar manner as claim 1 so as to recite that the archiving comprises archiving the plurality of the print data files into the archived file after changing a name of one print data file of the plurality of the print data files to a specified name, the one print data file being a Top Page print data file, wherein the Top Page print data file is a predetermined print data file in the print document which is firstly required by a printing apparatus in order to print the print document, and wherein the printing apparatus interprets the Top Page print data file and places bit map data obtained by rasterization based on data of each of the print data files that the Top Page print data file references.

For at least similar reasons as discussed above with respect to claim 1, Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of Parry and Davis does not teach, suggest or otherwise

render obvious such features. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claim 35 is patentable over the cited prior art, an indication of which is kindly requested.

Regarding claim 37, Applicants note this claim has been amended so as to recite that the plurality of the print data files are archived into the archived file after a name of one print data file of the plurality of the print data files is changed to a specified name, the one print data file being a Top Page print data file, wherein the Top Page print data file is a predetermined print data file in the print document which is firstly required by the printing apparatus in order to print the print document, and wherein the printing apparatus interprets the Top Page print data file and places bit map data obtained by rasterization based on data of each of the print data files that the Top Page print data file references.

For at least similar reasons as discussed above with respect to claim 1, Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of Parry and Davis does not teach, suggest or otherwise render obvious such features. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claim 37 is patentable over the cited prior art, an indication of which is kindly requested.

B. Claim 6 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Parry in view of Davis et al., and further in view of Agranat et al. (US 6,456,308).

Claim 6 depends from claim 1. Applicants respectfully submit that Agranat does not cure the deficiencies of Parry and Davis, as discussed above, with respect to claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claim 6 is patentable at least by virtue of its dependency.

C. Claims 12-14, 16-21, 26-28, 32, 34, 36 and 38 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §

103(a) as being unpatentable over Parry in view of Agranat et al., and further in view of Nakatsuma et al. (US 6,115,132).

Claim 12 recites that the sequential transmission unit transmits sequentially the plurality of the print data files accompanied by information on a total number of the plurality of the print data files composing the print document and a transmitting order of the plurality of the print data files composing the print document.

In the Office Action, the Examiner has recognized that neither Parry nor Agranat discloses or suggests the above-noted feature recited in claim 12. The Examiner, however taken the position that Nakatsuma cures this deficiency of Parry and Agranat. Applicants respectfully disagree.

In particular, regarding Nakatsuma, Applicants note that this reference discloses a printing system in which a client transmits job information of print data to a print server, wherein the server manages a print order in accordance with the job information (see Abstract and col. 28, lines 42-49). As explained in Nakatsuma, after a print operation is completed, the printer notifies the server that printing has been completed, and the server then instructs the client to delete the print data (see Abstract and col. 28, lines 36-42 and 52-54).

Based on the foregoing description, Applicants note that while Nakatsuma discloses the ability for a server to manage a print order in accordance with job information that is received from client devices, that the mere ability to manage a print order does not in any way whatsoever correspond to the above-noted features recited in claim 12 drawn to print data files that are accompanied by information on a total number of the print data files composing a print document and a transmitting order of the plurality of the print data files composing the print document.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that that the cited prior art references do not disclose, suggest or otherwise render obvious the above-noted feature recited in claim 12. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claim 12 is patentable over the cited prior art, an indication of which is kindly requested.

In addition, Applicants note that claim 12 has also been amended so as to recite that one of the plurality of print data files is a Top Page print data file, the Top Page print data file being a predetermined print data file in the print document which is firstly required by the printing apparatus in order to print the print document, wherein the printing apparatus interprets the Top Page print data file and places bit map data obtained by rasterization based on data of each of the print data files that the Top Page print data file references, and wherein the printing apparatus is able to identify the Top Page print data file on a basis of the transmitting order of the plurality of the print data files. Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of Parry, Agranat and Nakatsuma does not teach, suggest or otherwise render obvious such features.

In particular, regarding Parry, as noted above, this reference discloses the use of a printing device that is able to receive archived files from a source, and then decompress each of the received archived files into separate prints jobs (see paragraphs [0016] and [0017]). Regarding Agranat, Applicants note that this reference was relied on by the Examiner for the disclosure of a web server 1403 that serves static content 1405 from a storage device 1407 to a browser 101, and lastly, regarding Nakatsuma, as noted above, this reference merely discloses the use of a server that is able to manage a print order in accordance with received print job information.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that the cited prior art references do not teach, suggest or otherwise render obvious the above-noted features recited in amended

claim 12. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claim 12 is patentable over the cited prior art, an indication of which is kindly requested. Claims 13, 14 and 17-21 depend from claim 12 and are therefore considered patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

Regarding claim 16, Applicants note that this claim recites that the sequential transmission unit transmits the plurality of the print data files accompanied by a flag indicating a completion of the transmission, the flag being attached to one print data file to be transmitted to the printing apparatus last out of the plurality of the print data files composing the print document. In the Office Action, the Examiner has recognized that neither Parry nor Agranat discloses such a feature (see Office Action at page 19). The Examiner, however, has taken the position that Nakatsuma cures this deficiency of Parry and Agranat. Applicants respectfully disagree.

In particular, regarding Nakatsuma, as discussed above, this reference discloses that after a print operation is completed, the printer notifies the server that printing has been completed, and the server then instructs the client to delete the print data (see Abstract and col. 28, lines 36-42 and 52-54).

Thus, in Nakatsuma, while a notification is sent from the printer to the server indicating that printing has been completed, Applicants note that in direct contrast to such disclosure, claim 16 recites that the last print data file which is sent from the sequential transmission unit to a printing apparatus has a flag attached thereto that indicates a completion of the transmission of the print data files.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that the cited prior art references do not teach, suggest or otherwise render obvious the above-noted feature recited in claim 16.

Accordingly, Applicants submit that claim 16 is patentable over the cited prior art, an indication of which is kindly requested.

In addition, Applicants note that claim 16 has been amended to recite that one of the plurality of print data files is a Top Page print data file, the Top Page print data file being a predetermined print data file in the print document which is transmitted to the printing apparatus first out of the plurality of print data files composing the print document, wherein the printing apparatus interprets the Top Page print data file and places bit map data obtained by rasterization based on data of each of the print data files that the Top Page print data file references.

For at least similar reasons as discussed above with respect to claim 12, Applicants respectfully submit that the cited prior art references do not teach, suggest or otherwise render obvious such features. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claim 16 is patentable over the cited prior art, an indication of which is kindly requested.

Regarding claim 26, Applicants note this claim has been amended to recite that the sequential acquisition unit sequentially acquires the plurality of the print data files accompanied by information on a total number of the print data files composing the print document and a transmitting order of the plurality of the print data files composing the print document, wherein one of the plurality of print data files is a Top Page print data file, the Top Page print data file being a predetermined print data file in the print document which is firstly required by the printing apparatus in order to print the print document, wherein the printing apparatus interprets the Top Page print data file and places bit map data obtained by rasterization based on data of each of the print data files that the Top Page print data file references, and wherein the printing apparatus is able to identify the Top Page print data file on a basis of the transmitting order of the

plurality of the print data files.

For at least similar reasons as discussed above with respect to claim 12, Applicants respectfully submit that the cited prior art references do not teach, suggest or otherwise render obvious such features. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claim 26 is patentable over the cited prior art, an indication of which is kindly requested. Claims 27 and 28 depend from claim 26 and are therefore considered patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

Regarding claim 32, Applicants note this claim has been amended to recite that the sequential transmission unit transmits sequentially the plurality of the print data files accompanied by information on a total number of the plurality of the print data files composing the single print document and a transmitting order of the plurality of the print data files composing the single print document, wherein one of the plurality of print data files is a Top Page print data file, the Top Page print data file being a predetermined print data file in the print document which is firstly required by the printing apparatus in order to print the print document, wherein the printing apparatus interprets the Top Page print data file and places bit map data obtained by rasterization based on data of each of the print data files that the Top Page print data file references, and wherein the printing apparatus is able to identify the Top Page print data file on a basis of the transmitting order of the plurality of the print data files.

For at least similar reasons as discussed above with respect to claim 12, Applicants respectfully submit that the cited prior art references do not teach, suggest or otherwise render obvious such features. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claim 32 is patentable over the cited prior art, an indication of which is kindly requested.

Regarding claims 34 and 36, Applicants note these claims have been amended to recite

that the sequential transmission step comprises transmitting sequentially the plurality of the print data files accompanied by information on a total number of the plurality of the print data files composing the single print document and a transmitting order of the plurality of the print data files composing the single print document, wherein one of the plurality of print data files is a Top Page print data file, the Top Page print data file being a predetermined print data file in the print document which is firstly required by the printing apparatus in order to print the print document, wherein the printing apparatus interprets the Top Page print data file and places bit map data obtained by rasterization based on data of each of the print data files that the Top Page print data file references, and wherein the printing apparatus is able to identify the Top Page print data file on a basis of the transmitting order of the plurality of the print data files.

For at least similar reasons as discussed above with respect to claim 12, Applicants respectfully submit that the cited prior art references do not teach, suggest or otherwise render obvious such features. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claims 34 and 36 patentable over the cited prior art, an indication of which is kindly requested.

Regarding claim 38, Applicants note this claim has been amended to recite that the plurality of the print data files acquired sequentially from the print data providing apparatus are accompanied by information on a total number of the plurality of the print data files composing the single print document and a transmitting order of the plurality of the print data files composing the single print document, wherein one of the plurality of print data files is a Top Page print data file, the Top Page print data file being a predetermined print data file in the print document which is firstly required by the printing apparatus in order to print the print document, wherein the printing apparatus interprets the Top Page print data file and places bit map data

obtained by rasterization based on data of each of the print data files that the Top Page print data file references, and wherein the printing apparatus is able to identify the Top Page print data file on a basis of the transmitting order of the plurality of the print data files.

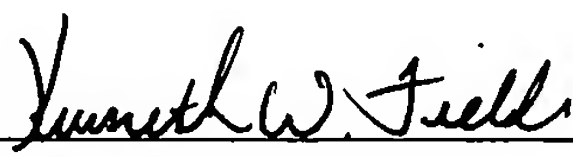
For at least similar reasons as discussed above with respect to claim 12, Applicants respectfully submit that the cited prior art references do not teach, suggest or otherwise render obvious such features. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claim 38 is patentable over the cited prior art, an indication of which is kindly requested.

II. Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may best be resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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